

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude by asking this: Many of us will be traveling back to our districts for the Christmas holidays. Given the complexity of airline reservations as we get close to the holidays, the difficulty in rescheduling, is there any way the gentleman could give the Members any kind of certainty as to what time we would be allowed, assuming we do not have a resolution of this budget impasse, to return to our districts, to our families, so that we would not once again be in the position of having canceled flights and an inability to get new accommodations for travel?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would again yield, I too share the gentleman's concern about the spending bills not yet completed, particularly Health and Human Services, the biggest discretionary spending bill of all, which is, as the gentleman knows, being held up by a Democrat minority filibuster in the other body. Perhaps we could get that broken out.

But frankly, Mr. Speaker, until we can get more serious discussions about the budget in the budget conference with the President and his team, it is very hard for me to predict what will be the outcome, having even yet to this point, today, recognizing of course that the press has been briefed, but I, as a member of that conference, have not yet seen a serious proposal from the White House. So, as we await that kind of work, we will continue to be hopeful that some of us may be home for Christmas.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I think at this point, having exhausted any potential questions and certainly not having received any answers, I would be more than happy to yield back my time.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1995

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, December 13, 1995.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1995, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY, SHIMON PERES, ACTING PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, for the Speaker to declare a recess subject to the call of the Chair for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Shimon Peres, Prime Minister of Israel.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be the consent of the House that the Dallas Cowboys be recognized as America's favorite football team.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I object.

QUESTIONS REGARDING END-OF-SESSION SCHEDULE

(Mr. ABERCROMBIE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, if the majority leader has not left the floor, I would certainly like to ask that he come back and answer a question that I had in the minute that has been given to me.

Mr. Speaker, if he will not, I would say, Mr. Speaker, that I am going to try and not use the word "bitter," but I certainly object to the cavalier fashion with which the majority leader just left the floor talking about the Dallas Cowboys, when there were serious questions asked and no answer was received with respect to what is going to happen with this ostensible Christmas holiday that is coming up.

Mr. Speaker, I want to know, not just for my convenience or inconvenience with respect to travel. I think the people of this country are entitled to know whether the majority of this House has come to a conclusion as to whether or not there is going to be a holiday; as to whether or not there is going to be a shutdown of the Government; and, whether they can give us a date as to whether we are going home.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think we need to end today's business of the legislative week with the majority leader cracking jokes about the Dallas Cowboys, as if there is no serious business being done on this floor.

□ 1500

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. 641, RYAN WHITE CARE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1995

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 641) to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act of 1990, and for other purposes,

with House amendments thereto, insist on the House amendments, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FOLEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia? The Chair hears none, and without objection, appoints the following conferees:

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BLILEY, BILIRAKIS, COBURN, WAXMAN, and STUDDS. There was no objection.

FEDERAL REPORTS ELIMINATION AND SUNSET ACT OF 1995

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 790) to provide for the modification or elimination of Federal reporting requirements, with Senate amendments to the House amendment thereto, and agree to the Senate amendments to the House amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments to the House amendment, as follows:

Senate amendments to House amendment: Page 3, of the House engrossed amendment, in the table of contents, strike out "Sec. 2021. Reports eliminated." and insert "Sec. 2021. Reports modified."

Page 18, of the House engrossed amendment, strike out lines 6 and 7.

Page 18, line 8, of the House engrossed amendment, strike out "(2)" and insert "(1)".

Page 18, line 9, of the House engrossed amendment, strike out "(3)" and insert "(2)".

Page 39, line 6, of the House engrossed amendment, strike out "reports" and insert "report".

Page 39, line 7, of the House engrossed amendment, strike out all after "'936(b)'" down to and including "Code," in line 8.

Page 43, of the House engrossed amendment, strike out line 19 and all that follows over to and including line 2 on page 45.

Page 49, line 21, of the House engrossed amendment, strike out "ELIMINATED" and insert "MODIFIED".

Mr. EHRLICH (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendments to the House amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I do not intend to object. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. EHRLICH] for a brief explanation of the Senate amendment.

Mr. EHRLICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me. In drafting this expansive and important piece of legislation it was discovered that four inadvertent drafting errors existed. Senator JOHN MCCAIN offered the amended version in the Senate yesterday and it passed with no objection. Both the House and Senate majority

and the minority have concurred with these technical changes prior to Senator McCain offering his version on the Senate floor yesterday. I urge Members of this body to join me in support of this bill so that it can be sent to the President and this redtape burden can be lifted from the executive branch. I hope that this fully explains the gentleman's inquiry.

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REFERRAL OF VETO MESSAGE ON H.R. 2586, TEMPORARY INCREASE IN PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT, TO COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the veto message on the bill (H.R. 2586) to provide for a temporary increase in the public debt limit, and for other purposes, be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

SUPPORT THE RICKY RAY BILL

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, this morning, more than 200 high school students gathered on the Capital steps to rally in support of "justice for all." They urge our passage of H.R. 1023, the Ricky Pay Hemophilia Relief Fund Act. This is a justice bill, designed to meet Government's share of the responsibility for a terrible medical tragedy that occurred in the early 1980's, when 8,000 people with hemophilia became infected with the virus that causes AIDS through the use of contaminated blood products. A review of the record shows that the Government failed to respond to the early warning signs of blood-borne AIDS and missed opportunities to protect hemophiliacs. The students have chosen to lobby on behalf of this legislation in part because most of them today are at the age that Ricky Ray—a constituent of mine—would have been if he had lived.

Tragically, Ricky Ray, and too many like him, succumbed to AIDS in December of 1992, at the age of only 15. Please join more than 160 of our colleagues and cosponsor this bill. It's the right thing to do.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GIBBONS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. SMITH of Michigan addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2621, PROTECTING FEDERAL TRUST FUNDS

Mr. GOSS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-388) on the resolution (H. Res. 293) providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2621) to enforce the public debt and to protect the Social Security trust funds and other Federal trust funds and accounts invested in public debt obligations, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

VACATING OF SPECIAL ORDER

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to vacate my request to speak for 5 minutes today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. POSHARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. POSHARD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. TIAHRT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. TIAHRT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. MFUME] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MFUME addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. JONES] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

ON THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, many times during the vigorous debate on the House floor, much of what is spoken of is sometimes confusing and traveling in murky waters as the American people try to understand the direction that this Congress is taking. Interestingly enough, as we heard last evening, the President vetoing H.R. 2491, many might have thought that here we go again with an attempt at being an obstructionist and not pursuing the needs of the American people.

But I think there needs to be a little explanation as to how we got to this